General Assembly

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Sixtieth session
Agenda item 124

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/60/608 and Corr.1)*]

60/248. Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007

The General Assembly,

I

International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO

Having considered the programme budget proposals for the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO for the biennium 2006–2007[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Decides to approve resources in the amount of 26,732,000 United States dollars (at the exchange rate of 1.27 Swiss francs to 1 dollar) proposed for the biennium 2006–2007 under section 13, International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007;[1]

II

Capital master plan

Recalling its resolutions 54/249 of 23 December 1999, 55/238 of 23 December 2000, 56/234 and 56/236 of 24 December 2001 and 56/286 of 27 June 2002, section II of its resolution 57/292 of 20 December 2002 and resolution 59/295 of 22 June 2005 and its decision 58/566 of 8 April 2004,

Having considered the third annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan[3] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[4]

Having also considered the reports of the Board of Auditors[5] and the Office of Internal Oversight Services for the period from August 2004 to July 2005,[6]

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[1] A/60/6 (Sect. 13) and Add.1.

[2] A/60/7/Add.16 and Corr.1.

[3] A/60/550 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1.

[4] A/60/7/Add.12.

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/60/5 (Vol. V)).

[6] A/60/288.

1. *Recognizes* the urgent need to continue the implementation of the design and pre-construction phases of the capital master plan;

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to proceed with design work, related project management and management of pre-construction services to the extent that those activities can be implemented without prejudice to the decision to be taken by the General Assembly at a later stage regarding its selection of the strategy for implementation of the capital master plan;

3. *Decides* to convert 8,198,000 dollars of the existing commitment authority into an appropriation with assessment for the year 2006 so as to provide for the continuation of design work and related project management and management of the pre-construction phase, including swing space requirements, as a minimum amount that would be required for capital master plan implementation during the first four months of 2006, irrespective of the strategy for the capital master plan to be endorsed by the General Assembly at a later stage;

4. *Also decides* to revert, as a matter of priority, to the issue of the capital master plan at the first part of its resumed sixtieth session, in March 2006;

III

Administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Having considered the report of the Standing Committee of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board on the administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,[7] the report of the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the Standing Committee[8] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[9]

1. *Concurs* with the recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund[10] and on the administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the Standing Committee of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board;[11]

2. *Approves* expenses, chargeable directly to the Fund, totalling 91,722,700 dollars net for the biennium 2006–2007 and a revised estimate of 89,563,100 dollars net for the biennium 2004–2005 for the administration of the Fund;

3. *Also approves* an additional amount of 1,079,000 dollars above the level of resources set out in section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007[12] as the United Nations share of the cost of the administrative expenses of the central secretariat of the Fund;

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[7] A/60/183.

[8] A/C.5/60/18.

[9] A/60/7/Add.7 and Add.22 and Corr.1.

[10] A/60/7/Add.7.

[11] A/60/7/Add.22 and Corr.1.

[12] A/60/6 (Sect. 1).

4. *Authorizes* the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to supplement the voluntary contributions to the Emergency Fund for the biennium 2006–2007 by an amount not exceeding 200,000 dollars;

IV

Request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

Recalling its resolution 59/276 of 23 December 2004,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General on the request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute on the work programme of the Institute for 2006–2007[13] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[14]

2. *Endorses* the proposal that the request for a subvention to the Institute be submitted for review and approval by the General Assembly on a biennial basis in the context of its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the related biennium;

3. *Approves* the request for a subvention to the Institute of 468,100 dollars for the biennium 2006–2007 from the regular budget of the United Nations, on the understanding that no additional provision would be required under section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007;[15]

V

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its resumed organizational and first substantive sessions of 2005

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General,[16] and endorses the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[17]

VI

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[18] and endorses the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[19]

2. *Approves* for the 26 missions dealt with in the report of the Secretary-General[18] the charge of 100 million dollars against the provision for special political

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[13] A/C.5/60/3.

[14] A/60/7/Add.8.

[15] A/60/6 (Sect. 4).

[16] A/60/396.

[17] A/60/7/Add.5.

[18] A/60/585.

[19] A/60/7/Add.24.

missions requested under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007;[20]

3. *Decides* to resume at the first part of its resumed sixtieth session its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council;

4. *Notes* that an unallocated balance of 255,949,300 dollars would remain against the provision of 355,949,300 dollars for special political missions under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007;

VII

Construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General[21] and endorses the related recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[22]

VIII

Possibility of operating guided tours, bookstores and gift shops at the United Nations Office at Nairobi and the cost implications thereof

Recalling its resolution 58/263 of 23 December 2003,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[23] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[24]

Requests the Secretary-General to organize, effective 1 January 2006, a guided tour operation at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and in this context also requests him to report the actual income and expenditures of the guided tour operation at the United Nations Office at Nairobi in the budget performance reports for the biennium 2006–2007 under income section 3, Services to the public;[25]

IX

Efforts of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in rationalization of monitoring and evaluation

1. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in rationalization of monitoring and evaluation in accordance with General Assembly resolution 58/269 of 23 December 2003, especially in carrying out self-evaluation activities in a systematic and comprehensive manner;

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[20] A/60/6 (Sect. 3).

[21] A/60/532.

[22] A/60/7/Add.21.

[23] A/59/793.

[24] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (A/60/7 and Corr.1), paras. VIII.72 and VIII.73.

[25] A/60/6 (Income sect. 3).

2. *Requests* the Commission, in this regard, to report on its activities in that area in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

X

Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe

Welcomes the workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe adopted by the Commission in its decision of 2 December 2005,[26] decides that the Commission should implement the adopted measures outlined in its decision, and to that end requests the Secretary-General to allocate the requisite resources within section 19, Economic development in Europe, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007;[27]

XI

Administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2005

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[28] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[29]

1. *Decides* to approve, with effect from 1 January 2006, the new scale of staff assessment recommended by the International Civil Service Commission in its report,[30]

2. *Also decides* to revert to the other issues contained in the report of the Secretary-General[28] at the first part of its resumed sixtieth session;

XII

Financial viability of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Recalling its resolutions 59/252 of 22 December 2004 and section X of its resolution 59/276 of 23 December 2004,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[31] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[32]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[31] and of the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[32]

2. *Decides* to provide the United Nations Institute for Training and Research with the amount of 242,400 dollars, being the equivalent of the amount of rental, maintenance and other administrative costs associated with conducting the core training programme for the biennium 2006–2007;

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[26] E/ECE/1434/Rev.1.

[27] A/60/6 (Sect.19).

[28] A/60/421 and Corr.1.

[29] A/60/7/Add.3.

[30] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 30* and corrigendum (A/60/30 and Corr.1), annex VI.

[31] A/60/360.

[32] A/60/7/Add.4.

3. *Reiterates* that, in order to ensure stability of the funding for the General Fund and the viability of repaying the United Nations its debt, the Institute should systematically charge 13 per cent of programme support costs to special purpose grants whenever possible;

XIII

Ethics office; comprehensive review of the governance arrangements, including an independent external evaluation of the auditing and oversight system; and the independent audit advisory committee

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[33] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[34]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[33] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[34]

2. *Recalls* its resolution 60/246 of 23 December 2005;

3. *Notes* that the approved resources would provide for the establishment of an ethics office and the undertaking of the evaluation study called for pursuant to paragraph 164 (*b*) of General Assembly resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005;

4. *Decides* to establish the Independent Audit Advisory Committee to assist the General Assembly in discharging its oversight responsibilities, and requests the Secretary-General to propose its terms of reference, ensure coherence with the outcome of the ongoing review of oversight and report to the Assembly at the second part of its resumed sixtieth session on related resource requirements;

XIV

Contingency fund

Notes that a balance of 4,966,000 dollars remains in the contingency fund;

XV

Effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates resulting from the effect of changes in rates of exchange and inflation[35] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[36]

Takes note of the revised estimates arising from recosting due to the effects of changes in the rates of exchange and inflation;

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[33] A/60/568 and Corr.1 and 2.

[34] A/60/7/Add.23.

[35] A/60/599.

[36] A/60/7/Add.32.

XVI

Joint Inspection Unit

Approves the gross budget for the Joint Inspection Unit for the biennium 2006–2007 in the amount of 10,511,100 dollars;

XVII

International Civil Service Commission

Approves the gross budget for the International Civil Service Commission for the biennium 2006–2007 in the amount of 16,211,300 dollars;

XVIII

Jointly financed gross budget of the Department of Safety and Security

Approves the gross budget for the Department of Safety and Security for the biennium 2006–2007 in the amount of 225,682,400 dollars, broken down as follows:

(*a*) Field security operations: 201,423,900 dollars;

(*b*) Security and safety services at the United Nations Office at Vienna: 24,258,500 dollars.

69th plenary meeting
23 December 2005